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great injustice done to the merits of the original negatives and the correspondingly erroneous impressions conveyed by the prints on paper, it is a question whether an attempt to publish the coronal photographs by such methods is not a mistake. Every one who proposes to make a careful study of coronal subjects must depend upon the original negatives or copies on glass made from them.

W. W. CAMPBELL.

THE PARTIAL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF JUNE 28, 1908.

The beginning and ending of the eclipse were observed with the 36-inch refractor. The object-glass was capped down to eight inches in diameter, and a neutral-tinted glass covered the eye-piece. The times of apparent contact of Sun and Moon were noted, as follows:—

Beginning. .	6 <sup>h</sup> 20 <sup>m</sup> 39 <sup>s</sup> A.M.,	Pacific Standard Time.
Ending. . . .	8 6 13 A.M.,	“ “ “

It is well known that the estimated time of beginning of eclipse is especially subject to error, for the reason that the observer does not see the Moon's approach, but is suddenly made aware that the Moon has entered upon the Sun's image.

Special but unsuccessful efforts were made to see the Moon's limb extending outside of the Sun's image: only that part of the Moon's limb projected on the Sun was visible. Dr. ALBRECHT also observed the Moon's limb immediately following the beginning of the eclipse, but could not trace it beyond the Sun's edge. He assisted in all the above observations.

The observations were all made through thin clouds. The beginning occurred with the Sun low in the sky and the seeing rated as I on a scale of V (perfect). The end occurred with seeing II.

W. W. CAMPBELL.

June 29, 1908.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE PARTIAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN JUNE 28, 1908.

The various phases of this eclipse were observed with the object of seeing whether or not the dark body of the Moon could be seen projected against the inner, and very bright, parts of the corona.

The observations were made with the 12-inch equatorial, stopped down to three inches, using powers of about 125 and 175. A diagonal, plane-glass reflector was used in front of the eye-piece, and as light a shade-glass as possible.

Thin clouds covered the sky during the observations, but were not sufficiently dense to interfere with seeing the detail of structure in spots.

No evidences, whatever, of the corona were seen.

The contacts were observed as follows:—

First Contact, 1908, June 28. . 2<sup>h</sup> 20<sup>m</sup> 39<sup>s</sup> G. M. T.

Last contact, 1908, June 28. . 4 6 16 “

It was estimated that geometrical first contact occurred two seconds earlier than the above time, which is the time when the contact was certain. The time of the last contact observation is that of the disappearance of the lunar limb, which is practically that of geometrical contact.

A high, gusty wind blew from the north during the observations, weakening somewhat toward the end. The seeing was extremely bad during the early part of the observations, but improved very much before last contact. C. D. PERRINE.

MT. HAMILTON, CAL., June 29, 1908.

#### THE ORBITS OF THE SPECTROSCOPIC BINARIES $\beta$ HERCULIS AND $\alpha$ LEONIS.

$\beta$  *Herculis*.—This star was found to have a variable radial velocity by Dr. CAMPBELL in 1899. By September, 1902, a series of thirty-two spectrograms had been obtained at Mt. Hamilton, and a determination of the orbit from this material was undertaken by Dr. H. M. REESE. Before his investigation was quite completed, however, he resigned his position in the Lick Observatory, and left in June, 1903, without preparing his results for publication.

A careful examination of the papers left by Dr. REESE showed that his work had been carried to an advanced stage, and that little was necessary to put it in a final form and to verify that it represented the orbit with satisfactory accuracy at the time when the observations were made. A set of provisional elements had been adopted after some trials, and from the equations of conditions based on these elements differen-